

Message Text

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45

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03

FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /128 W

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R 302113Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8678

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 0822

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0672

US MISSION OECD PARIS 1462

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 0856

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0398

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, OECD, CA

SUBJ: PROPOSAL FOR FEBRUARY MEETING OF OECD HIGH-LEVEL GROUP
ON COMMODITIES

REF: A. STATE 13335

B. STATE 18780

1. EMBOFF RAISED WITH EXTAFB CIEC COORDINATING
OFFICER U.S. PROPOSAL FOR OECD HIGH-LEVEL GROUP ON
COMMODITIES MEETING FEBRUARY 9-10 AND U.S. TENTATIVE
PROPOSAL THAT GROUP B PAPER ON COMMODITIES POLICY
SERVE AS USEFUL STARTING POINT FOR OECD HLGC AND
CORM DISCUSSIONS.

2. EXTAFB OFFICER REPORTED BACK ON JANUARY 27 THAT
MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH CONCERNED DEPARTMENT OF
INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE OFFICIALS AND THAT CANADA
IS AGREEABLE TO FEBRUARY 9-10 MEETING AS PROPOSED.
WITH REGARD TO GROUP B PAPER, HE NOTED ONLY THAT U.S.
IS WELL AWARE OF CANADIAN DIFFICULTIES WITH SECTION
OF PAPER ON ACCESS TO MARKETS AND SUPPLIES.

3. ON JANUARY 28 EMBOFF WAS CONTACTED BY SUBSTANTIVE
OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH CORM AFFAIRS (DAVID ROBERTS,
COMMODITY TRADE POLICY BRANCH, OFFICE OF GENERAL
RELATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE).
HE CONFIRMED INTENT OF CANADATO PARTICIPATE IN
FEBRUARY 9-10 HLGC MEETING BUT INDICATED THAT CANADA
DID NOT SEE HOW FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM WITH GROUP B PAPER
COULD BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED TO PERMIT ITS USE IN
THE CORM. PER REFTTEL B INSTRUCTION, EMBOFF SUGGESTED
THAT OECD MISSIONS IN PARIS MIGHT BE BEST CHOICE TO
COORDINATE DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM IN ADVANCE.
ROBERTS RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT THINKPARIS MISSNS
COULD ACHIEVE POSITIVE RESULTS SINCE OFFICIALS MOST
CONCERNED WITH THIS ISSUE ARE IN CAPITALS AND NOT IN
PARIS.

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4. EMBOFF RAISED MATTER WITH ROBERTS AGAIN ON
JANUARY 30. ROBERTS SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO BASIC
CHANGE IN CANADIAN THINKING ON GROUP B PAPER BUT
SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED IN
PARIS THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 9 PRIOR TO THE AFTERNOON
OPENING MEETING OF THE HLGC.
JOHNSON

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Disposition Remarks:
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